

MATTHEW

July 25, 2021

Matthew 4:1-11

READ

Matthew 4:1-11

QUESTIONS for REFLECTION

1. This scene is step-two of Jesus' ministry & mission. Who is in charge of the scene (v. 1)?

Is there any significance to the location of this scene? (Why the wilderness?)

What is to happen in this place?

2. What are some of the nuances of meaning of the word "temptation"? (What are the three "T"s of temptation?) How do these apply in this case?

3. How is Jesus' opponent described (vv. 1, 3, 5, 8, 10, 11)? What is significant about each description? (What does each description tell us about him?)

4. Why would Jesus' capitulation to the first temptation be so egregious (v. 3)?

What is critical about Jesus' response?

5. How is the second temptation a test of "the LORD your God" (vv. 5-7)?

6. What shortcut does the third temptation offer (vv. 8-9)?

What is problematic about the devil's offer in v. 9 (c.f., John 8:44; Revelation 12:9)?

What is different about Jesus' response to this temptation?

7. Discuss the place of temptations/trials/tests in Jesus' life.

- John 14:30 (c.f., James 1:14)
- Hebrews 4:15

8. What is your hope in the face of temptation?

- James 1:3-4, 12
- Psalm 91:2-3
- 2 Peter 2:9
- 1 Corinthians 10:13
- 1 John 4:4
- James 4:7
- Ephesians 6:17

PERSONAL RESPONSE

I will trust the Lord this week by . . .

I will resist the devil this week by . . .

I will take up the sword of the Spirit this week by . . .